

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SU, US

SUBJECT: US-SUDAN BILATERAL RELATIONS: CHARGE MEETING WITH
FRANCIS DENG

1. AT AMBASSADOR BREWER'S SUGGESTION, CHARGE PAID COURTESY CALL ON MIN STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO US FRANCIS DENG ON AUG 12. DENG WAS VERY CORDIAL AND SEEMED TO APPRECIATE CHARGE'S GESTURE. DURING 45- MINUTE MEETING HE MADE CLEAR THAT ENTIRE GOS IS WORKING TOWARD BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH US. HE MENTIONED RECENTLY FORMED INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO FACILITATE SUDANESE-AMERICAN PROGRAMS AND HE SAID A MAJOR EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ELIMINATE OR AT LEAST MINIMIZE RED TAPE IN CONNECTION WITH THESE PROGRAMS. IN ADDITION, HE SAID PRESIDENT NIMEIRI IS CONSIDERING ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE ATTACHED TO HIM WHICH WILL KEEP HIM ABREAST OF US-SUDAN DEVELOPMENTS. DENG URGED CHARGE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MINISTERS WHO ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT NIMEIRI IN US WHILE AMBASSADOR BREWER ON HOME LEAVE. IN THAT CONNECTION HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO STRESS THAT MINISTER OF INDUSTRY SULEIMAN WAS FULLY IN FAVOR ENCOURAGING US INVESTMENT IN SUDAN. DENG SAID THAT SUDANESE OFFICIALS DURING THEIR VISIT TO US GOT IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS OUR VIEW THAT SULEIMAN WAS HESITANT TO ENCOURAGE US INVESTMENT. DENG INDICATED HE WILL BE FOLLOWING UP ON SEVERAL MATTERS DISCUSSED DURING

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PRESIDENT'S VISIT IN WASHINGTON. HE SPECIFICALLY

MENTIONED FOLLOWING FIVE AREAS:

A. JOINT COMMITTEE: HE APOLOGIZED FOR SUDAN NEWS AGENCY "EXAGGERATION"; IT REPORTED AUG 12 THAT DENG HAD SAID AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED BETWEEN GOS AND USG FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COUNCIL TO COORDINATE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. DENG SAID THAT WHILE AWARE NO FINAL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED, HE WAITING TO LEARN OF OUR REACTION TO DAVID SCOTT'S PROPOSALS (KHARTOUM 2290 AND 2327). DENG SAID HE EXPECTED REPLY ON THIS SUBJECT FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE AND HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN OUR VIEWS ON VALUE OF JOINT COMMISSIONS.

B. TRILATERAL-QUADRILATERAL COOPERATION: DENG SAID SUDANESE OFFICIALS WERE INVESTIGATING BEST WAY TO APPROACH WEALTHY ARAB FRIENDS WITH SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO COOPERATE WITH US IN SUDAN. CHARGE SAID IT WAS OUR VIEW THAT, AS FELLOW ARABS, SUDANESE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE PRESENTATION. DENG AGREED IN GENERAL, BUT SAID OFTEN KUWAITIS, SAUDIS OR OTHERS ARE MORE RECEPITIVE TO OPINIONS THAT COME FROM WASHINGTON.

C. C-130: CHARGE SAID WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THIS MATTER AND WERE AWAITING REPLY TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH AMBASSADOR BREWER MADE TO U/SEC JUST PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE.

D. GENERAL MILITARY TRAINING: DR. DENG ASKED WHETHER WE HAD RECEIVED NOTE ON GENERAL MILITARY TRAINING (I.E. DISTINCT FROM THAT RELATED TO C-130 PROGRAM), AND WHEN CHARGE SAID NONE HAD BEEN RECEIVED, HE SEEMED A BIT UPSET. HE SAID THAT IN MEETING PRESIDENT NIMEIRI HAD WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS THERE HAD BEEN AGREEMENT THAT GENERAL TRAINING WOULD BE PROVIDED AND THAT THERE WAS A DEGREE OF URGENCY TO THIS PROGRAM.

E. PL 480 TITLE I: DENG SAID HE UNDERSTOOD A REQUEST HAD BEEN FORMALLY MADE, AND CHARGE AGREED IT HAD BEEN RECEIVED.

2. DURING CONVERSATION WITH DENG, IT WAS CLEAR HE WAS UNDER GUN TO SEE THAT MATTERS DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON WERE IMPLEMENTED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. IT NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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COMPLETELY CLEAR THAT US EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM AND FOREIGN MINISTRY HAVE EXACT SAME UNDERSTANDING OF STATUS VARIOUS PROJECTS. THEREFORE, DENG AND CHARGE AGREED TO TRY TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHERE DIFFERENT MATTERS MENTIONED ABOVE STAND AND TO REVIEW THEIR STATUS IN ABOUT A WEEK. DEPT POSITION ON JOINT COMMISSION AND US-SUDAN BUSINESS COUNCIL MADE UP OF PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES IS CLEAR FROM STATE 196201. SIMILARLY, STATE 186570

PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON QUESTION OF TRILATERAL-QUADRILATERAL COOPERATION. C-130 AND PL 480 TITL I MATTERS ALSO SEEM TO BE UNDERSTOOD. WE ASSUME THAT GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN STATE 186532 COVERS MILITARY SALES, INCLUDING GENERAL TRAINING, AND THAT NO ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE IS REQUIRED. THEREFORE, CHARGE ANTICIPATES CALL ON DENG NEXT WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL GO OVER THESE SUBJECTS BASED ON GUIDANCE AND INFO PRESENTLY ON HAND. DEPT MAY WISH PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONS. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF ANY ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE RECEIVED HERE BY COB TUESDAY, AUG 17.

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